

JANUARY 13, 1828.

**Read twice, and committed to a Committee of the whole House
to-morrow.**

A BILL

To abolish Imprisonment for Debt.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives*
2 *of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*
3 *That, from and after the passing of this act, imprisonment*
4 *for debt, on process issuing from the Courts of the United*
5 *States, be, and the same is hereby, abolished.*

1 **SEC. 2.** *And be it further enacted, That all the right, ti-*
2 *tle, and interest, of any debtor, in any article, whether real,*
3 *personal, or mixed, and whether in possession, remainder, or*
4 *reversion, and whether held by him, or by others in trust for*
5 *him, shall be subject to be seized and taken on execution, to*
6 *satisfy any judgment, attachment, decree, or award of execu-*
7 *tion, rendered in any of the Courts aforesaid.*

1 **SEC. 3.** *And be it further enacted, That the plaintiff;*
2 *petitioner, or complainant, in any judgment, award, or de-*
3 *creed, whenever he shall believe that the defendant in judg-*

4 ment has fraudulently withheld or secreted any property
 5 subjected to execution by the second section in this bill, he
 6 may state the same, upon oath, before the Court in which judg-
 7 ment may have been rendered, praying a jury to try the fact
 8 of fraud; and that fact being found against the defendant, the
 9 plaintiff shall be entitled to an execution against the body of
 10 the defendant, which shall operate as though this act had not
 11 passed.